

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, including listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for regenerating genetically modified plants of pine of the genus *Pinus* subgenus *Pinus* selected from the group consisting of Southern yellow pines and hybrids thereof, which comprises selecting transgenic embryogenic pine cells using a selection medium comprising a selection agent and an agent that regulates differentiation of embryos from embryogenic cells, said differentiation agent is ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ (i) abscisic acid (ABA), (ii) ~~polyethylene glycol (PEG)~~, (iii) ~~a gelling agent in an amount between about 3% and about 5%~~, (iv) ~~a gelling agent in an amount between about 0.5% and about 1.5%~~ and (v) ~~combinations thereof~~ and regenerating genetically modified plants from said selected transgenic embryogenic pine cells.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said Southern yellow pines are selected from the group consisting of *Pinus taeda*, *Pinus elliotii*, and *Pinus caribaea* and related pines.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein transformed pine cells are cultured using a medium comprising said selection agent and said differentiation agent to select said transgenic embryogenic pine cells.

Claims 4-21 (canceled).

Claim 22 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said selection is performed by

culturing pine cells which have been subjected to transformation using a transformation medium comprising said differentiation agent;

contacting said cells with a selection agent; and

selecting transformed cells.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 22, wherein said selection agent is contained in a gel medium.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein said selection agent is contained in a layer and said cells are cultured on a support membrane placed over said layer which is placed on a gel medium.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein said layer is a liquid medium.

Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 24, wherein said layer is a filter paper with a liquid medium absorbed therein.

Claim 27 (original): The method of claim 24, wherein said support membrane is prepared from a material selected from the group consisting of polyester, polypropylene and a liquid permeable fluoropolymer fabric.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The method of claim 22, wherein said transformed cells are cultured on a gel medium comprising said differentiation agent.

Claims 29 (canceled).

Claim 30 (original): The method of claim 24, wherein said ABA is in said layer.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein said selection is performed by
culturing pine cells which have been subjected to transformation using a transformation medium comprising said differentiation agent;
contacting said cells with a selection agent; and
selecting transformed cells.

Claim 32 (original): The method of claim 31, wherein said selection agent is contained in a gel medium.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The method of claim 31, wherein said selection agent is contained in a layer and said cells are cultured on a support membrane placed over said layer which is placed on a gel medium.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The method of claim 33, wherein said layer is a liquid medium.

Claim 35 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein said layer is a filter paper with a liquid medium absorbed therein.

Claim 36 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein said support membrane is prepared from a material selected from the group consisting of polyester, polypropylene and a liquid permeable fluoropolymer fabric.

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Claim 37 (previously presented): The method of claim 31, wherein said transformed cells are cultured on a gel medium comprising said differentiation agent.

Claim 38 (canceled).

Claim 39 (original): The method of claim 33, wherein said ABA is in said layer.

Claim 40 (original): The method of claim 22, wherein said transformation is transformation by *Agrobacterium*.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of claim 40 which further includes the eradication of *Agrobacterium* from pine cells subjected to *Agrobacterium* transformation following transformation.

Claim 42 (original): The method of claim 31, wherein said transformation is transformation by *Agrobacterium*.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The method of claim 42 which further includes the eradication of *Agrobacterium* from pine cells subjected to *Agrobacterium* transformation following transformation.

Claims 44-55 (canceled).